



# City of Asheville, NC

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## Finance Department

### Minutes

Finance Committee  
2:30 p.m., March 8, 2011  
Human Resources Training Room, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, City Hall

**Present:** Committee: Councilman Bill Russell (Chair), Councilman Cecil Bothwell, Councilwoman Esther Manheimer

**Guests:** Pack Place Advisory Board Members

**Staff:** Gary Jackson, Lauren Bradley, Cathy Ball, Chief Steve Burnette, Kelley Dickens, Tony McDowell, Amy Patterson, Ken Putnam, Brenda Mills, Cheryl Heywood, John Sanchez

- Approval of 2/8/2011 Minutes
  - Councilwoman Manheimer moved to approve the 1/25/11 minutes; this motion was seconded by Councilman Bothwell, and unanimously approved.
- Pack Place HVAC Project (Councilman Russell)
  - Lauren gave the committee some background information and history of Pack Place facility and the urgent need for a new HVAC system. Pack Place advisory board requests cost sharing of \$284,000 with the county for a new system. Councilman Russell said that Pack Place has economic benefits to the City and is enjoyed by many of its citizens. Lauren said if council approves funding the new HVAC system, staff recommends that the funds be taken out of capital reserves.
  - The committee agreed to recommend to council to support a \$284,000 contribution to Pack Place for a new HVAC system and would like to get this item scheduled on the agenda for the next council meeting on 3/22.

- Budget Update (Lauren Bradley)
  - General Fund Operating Budget
    - Lauren went over the budget process calendar and revenue and expenditure assumptions and said that employee compensation will remain at current levels for the third consecutive year.
  - Medical Plan Design changes
    - Kelley Dickens explained the medical plan design changes to include the wellness program, increases in employee premium costs, co-payments and co-insurance, and the expansion of the health services clinic as well as the availability of domestic partner benefits during the fiscal year 2011-12 open enrollment.
  - Brush and Leaf Collection
    - Lauren told the committee about the proposed policy of bagged leaf collection, which would realize a cost savings of \$83,000; and returning to twice per month brush collection which would have a financial impact of \$125,000.
  - Solid Waste Recycling
    - Changes in the waste stream reduction program would introduce variable sized garbage cans and single stream recycling in 95 gallon carts, with proposed solid waste fee structure designed to cover costs.
- Due to lack of time to discuss remaining agenda items, Councilman Bothwell moved to have a special meeting on 3/15 at 1:30 p.m., to continue discussion on Fees and Charges and Contracting Policy; this motion was seconded by Councilman Russell and unanimously approved.